



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE

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## IMPORTED HERBAL MEDICINE PRODUCTS KNOWN TO CONTAIN LEAD, MERCURY, OR ARSENIC

The following table contains information on some imported health remedies known to contain lead, mercury, or arsenic. The information has been gathered from government agencies and the scientific literature. The list of products is not all-inclusive.

Health Care Providers should:

- Consider potential metal contamination whenever dealing with foreign-made or foreign-bought health remedies regardless of whether or not these products are listed in the table.
- Ask patients about their use of prescription as well as non-prescription health remedies including supplements, vitamins, tonics, Ayurvedic products, herbs, and minerals.
- Keep in mind that imported health remedies may be manufactured or home-made and may be available for purchase in NYC or obtained outside the U.S.
- Test patients for lead and other heavy metals when ingestion of contaminated health remedies is suspected.
- Report heavy metal poisonings or products that may contain heavy metals by calling NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) at 212-788-4290 during regular business hours.
- For urgent matters during non-business hours, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222.

South and Southeast Asian Herbal or Mineral Medicine Products					
Product Name	Uses	Manufacturer Country or Region	Lead	Mercury	Arsenic
Bal Chamcha	Problems w/liver, digestion, teething, milk intolerance, irregular stools, regurgitation, bloating, parasites, colic, poor sleep, poor dentition, myalgia	India	√		
Bala Goli/Fita	Dissolved in "gripe water" and used for stomach ache	India	√		
Bala Guti	Children's tonic	India	√		
Bal Jivan	Baby tonic	India	√		
Bala Sogathi	Growth of children, teething, cough, cold, fever, diarrhea	India	√		
Balguti Kesaria	Tonic tablets for babies with sudha and gold rickets, coryza, cough griping, skin roughness, worms and dental problems	India	√	√	√
Balguti Kesaria	For children and infants	India	√	√	
Deshi Dewa	Fertility	India	√		
Ghasard/Ghazard/ Qhasard	Traditional remedy for digestion	India	√		
Jambrulin	Diabetes and sugar control	India	√		
Lakshmilash Ras (Nardiya)	Chronic fever, cold, and cough	India		√	
Mahayogaraj Guggulu (enriched with silver)	Rheumatic pain	India	√		
Mahayograj Guggulu with silver and Makardhwaj	Rheumatic pain, bile, pigmentation disorders, blood purification, eye problems, weakness	India	√	√	√
Maha Yograj Guggul	Musculo-skeletal disorders	India	√	√	√
Maha Sudarshan	Flu and body ache	India		√	
Mahalakshmi Vilas Ras with gold	Cold related symptoms, blood deficiency, wound healing, asthma	India	√	√	√
Navratna Rasa	General debility, rickets, calcium deficiency	India	√	√	√

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Paylooah or pay-loo-ah	Traditional remedy for rash and high fever	Southeast Asia	√		
Sundari Kalp	Menstrual health	India	√		
Swarna Mahayograj Guggulu with gold	Rheumatism, gas, cerebro-vascular accident, menstrual cycles, progesterone deficiency, strengthening arteries/veins, weak vital organs, mental disorders, fertility, menopause	India	√	√	√
Tibetan Herbal Medicine	Traditional remedy for mental retardation	Made in Tibet, used in India	√		

<b>Chinese Herbal or Mineral Medicine Products</b>					
<b>Product Name</b>	<b>Uses</b>	<b>Manufacturer Country or Region</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Mercury</b>	<b>Arsenic</b>
An Gong Niu Huang Wan	“Spasm due to high fever in epidemic diseases, stroke, seizure”	China		√	√
An Kung Niu Huan Wan	N/A	China	√	√	
An Shen Bu Nao Pian (Ansenpunaw Tablets)	Neurasthenia, Meniere's Syndrome, hyperthyroidism	China		√	
Ba Bow sen (Ba-Baw-Sen)	Hyperactivity and nightmares in children	China	√		
Bai Zi Yang Xin Wan (Pai Tze Yang Hsin Wan)	Neurasthenia w/ chills, palpitations	China		√	
Bao Ning Dan	Traditional remedy for acne, pain, removing toxins	China	√		
Bao Ying Dan	High grade fever, acute pneumonia & bronchitis	China		√	
Bezoar Sedative Pills	N/A	China	√	√	

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Chuifong tokuwan	Traditional remedy for arthralgias and other pain	Asia	√		
Ci Zhu Wan	Kidney/heart disharmony, epileptic seizures	China		√	
Cordyceps	Traditional remedy for hypertension, diabetes, bleeding	China	√		
Emperor's Tea Pill	Maintain body's natural balance	China	√	√	
Fargelin	N/A	China			√
Fufang Luhui Jiaonang	N/A	China		√	
Hai Ge Fen	Gastrointestinal ailments	China	√		
Hepatico Extract	Healthy liver and regularity	China	√	√	
Hiya Kiogan	N/A	China			√
Hu Po Bao Long Wan (Po Lung Yuen Med. Pills)	Acute bronchitis & pneumonia, epidemic encephalitis, high-grade fever associated with measles	Hong Kong		√	
Jeu Wo Dan	Cast dressing	China	√	√	
Jian Nao Wan (Healthy Brain Pills)	Meniere's Syndrome (tinnitus, vertigo)	China		√	
Koo Sar, Koo Soo	Menstrual Cramps	Hong Kong	√		
Kweiling Chi Super Tonic	Impotency, nocturnal emissions, anemia, lassitude, atony in loin and legs, poor appetite, general weakness after childbirth	N/A		√	
Lu Shen Wan	N/A	China	√	√	√
Ng Chung Brand Tik Dak Win	N/A	China	√		
Niu Huang Jie Du Pian	Mumps, sore throat and tonsillitis	China			√
Niu Huang Xiao Yan Wan/Bezoar Antiphlogistic Pills	N/A	China	√	√	√
Pa Pao Ching Feng San	N/A	China			√

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Peking Niu Huang Chieh Tu Pien	Headache, vertigo, sore throat, gastric fever, mouth pimples, gum bleeding, acute ophthalmia, acute dysphagia, mumps, earache, toothache, children's fever, anorexia, nausea	China			√
Qi Li San	Sport/traumatic injuries w/ open wounds, skin infections and sores, pain due to chronic hepatitis	China		√	
Qing Fen	Cast dressing, pain	China	√	√	
Sha Hee Pills	N/A	China		√	√
She Dan Chen Pi San	Acute pneumonia, acute bronchitis, whooping cough	China		√	
Tse Koo Choy	Respiratory problems	China		√	
White Peony Scar Repairing Pills	Scars	Hong Kong	√		
Xi Gua Shuang (Water Melon Frost)	Diseases of the mouth, burns on the skin	China		√	
Zhu Sha An Shen Wan (Cinnabar Sedative Pill)	Neurasthenia with poor memory & depression, hysteria	China		√	
Zhui Feng Tou Gu Wan/Zhiufeng Tougu Wan	Bone ailments, joint pain, numbness	N/A	√	√	
Zi Jin Ding	Pediatric pneumonia & bronchitis, summer heat stroke, early stages of skin infection	China		√	

<b>Hispanic Herbal or Mineral Medicine Products</b>					
<b>Product Name</b>	<b>Uses</b>	<b>Manufacturer Country or Region</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Mercury</b>	<b>Arsenic</b>
Albayalde or albayaidle	Traditional remedy for empacho (vomiting, colic, apathy, and lethargy)	Mexico and Central America	√		
Alarcon, azarcon. Coral, luiga, maria luisa, rueda (red orange powder)	Traditional remedy for gastrointestinal symptoms, upset, empacho (vomiting, colic, apathy, and lethargy)	Mexico	√		
Azogue/Vidajan (quicksilver)	Traditional remedy for stomach pain, amulet for evil eye	Hispanic/Haitian		√	
Greta	Traditional remedy for digestive problems, empacho	Mexico, Central America	√		
Litargirio	Traditional remedy; antiperspirant/deodorant, herbal remedies, botanica	Dominican Republic	√		
Molleja de Pollo Molida	Ground chicken gizzard with greta used in tea to treat stomachache	Mexico	√		

<b>Middle Eastern Herbal or Mineral Medicine Products</b>					
<b>Product Name</b>	<b>Uses</b>	<b>Manufacturer Country or Region</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Mercury</b>	<b>Arsenic</b>
Anzroot	Gastroenteritis	Middle East	√		
Bint or bent (al)dahab	Diarrhea, colic, constipation, general neonatal use	Middle East	√		
Cebagin	Teething powder	Middle East	√		
Farouk	Teething powder	Saudi Arabia	√		
Murrah, al-murrah	Traditional remedy for colic, stomach aches, diarrhea	Saudi Arabia	√		
Santrinj	Teething powder	Saudi Arabia	√		